

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

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Serial No.: 09/513,937

Filing Date: February 28, 2000

Attorney Docket No. 100.112US02

Title: SERVICE DELIVERY UNIT FOR AN ENTERPRISE NETWORK

REMARKS

Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed on June 30, 2004 as well as the art cited. Claims 1-21 are pending in this application.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the Examiner to consider the applicability of 35 USC 103(c) and potential 35 USC 102(e), (f), or (g) prior art under 35 USC 103(a).

Claims 1-3, 11-13, 15 and 16

Claims 1-3, 11-13, 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ball et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,446,200) (herein referred to as "Ball") in view of Vaid et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,502,131) (herein referred to as "Vaid"). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Independent claims 1 and 16 have been amended to specify that service delivery unit classifies network requests and identifies the policies that relate to the request. Independent claim 11 has been amended to specify that central processing unit classifies network requests and identifies the policies that relate to the request. As observed by the Examiner, Mohaban et al, Vaid et al, and Ball et al fail to teach classifying a request and identifying policies that relate to the request, which applicant teaches in the specification (page 8, line 6-11, page 9, line 12-17, claims 17-21).

Applicant respectfully asserts that the amended claims 1, 11 and 16, and claims 2-3, 12-13 and 15, which depend directly or indirectly from claim 1, are allowable. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested. Because the Applicant believes claims 1-3, 11-13, 15 and 16 are allowable for the above reasons, Applicant may not have put forth responses to additional rejections to said claims at this time. However, the Applicant reserves the right to address said additional rejections to said claims if a further response is required.

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Claims 4-6, 7 and 8-10

Claims 4-6 were rejected by the Examiner, however the Examiner did not state under what section of 35 USC claims 4-6 were rejected. Therefore, applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claim 7 was rejected by the Examiner, however the Examiner did not state under what section of 35 USC claim 7 was rejected. Therefore, applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claims 8-10 were rejected by the Examiner, however the Examiner did not state under what section of 35 USC claims 8-10 were rejected. Therefore, applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claims 4-6, 7, and 8-10 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1. Claim 1 is allowable for the reasons identified above. Therefore, claims 4-10 are also allowable. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Claim 14

The Examiner did not address claim 14. Previously claim 14 had been rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner asserted that the phrase "interface that is coupleable to communicate" is unclear. Claim 14 was amended in a previous communication from Applicant to the Examiner to specify that the network interface port comprises an interface that is coupleable to the wide area network to provide communication over a number of permanent virtual connections. Applicant respectfully asserts that the amended claim is clear. Additionally, claim 14 is dependent on claim 11, which Applicant believes is allowable for the reasons stated above. Therefore, claim 14 is allowable. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

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Allowable Subject Matter

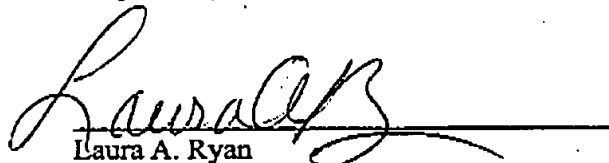
Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 17-21 were allowed.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-21 are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 502432.

If the Examiner has any questions or concerns regarding this application, please contact the undersigned at (612) 332-4720.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 11/30/2004
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